

Hunting and Trapping

Emergency Order

Under the Authority of AS 16.05.060

Alaska Department
of Fish and Game

Emergency Order 05-11-12

Issued at Nome, Alaska
October 9, 2012

Effective Date: 11:59 p.m.
October 9, 2012

Expiration Date: June 30, 2013
unless superseded by subsequent
emergency order.

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order closes the Tier II muskox hunt (TX102) for Unit 22D remainder (the American and Agiapuk River drainages), on October 9, 2012 at 11:59 p.m. This closure is in response to over-quota harvest in the area.

REGULATION:

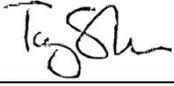
Therefore, the following regulations in **5 AAC 85.050(a)(2) HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR MUSKOXEN** are superseded by this emergency order, and the following provisions are effective for hunting muskox in a portion of Unit 22 (D):

Units and Bag Limits	Resident Open Season (Subsistence and General Hunts)	Nonresident Open Season
(2)		
...		
Unit 22(D), American and Agiapuk River drainages:		
1 musk ox per regulatory year by Tier II subsistence hunting permit only	Aug. 1-Oct. 9 (Subsistence hunt only)	No open season
...		

All other muskox hunting regulations in Unit 22 remain unchanged and are not affected by this emergency order.

Cora Campbell
Commissioner

By delegation to:



Tony Gorn
Area Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

The 2012 spring Seward Peninsula muskoxen population survey documented a population-wide 23% decline since 2010. The subunit estimate for Unit 22D indicated a 28% decline during the same time period. This represents a large population reduction compared to the relatively stable population estimates between 2007 and 2010 that followed a long period of growth. In response to the decline in the population, a conservative harvest management strategy was adopted for Seward Peninsula muskox hunts to promote herd growth and rebuild depleted bull: cow ratios in the population.

The Alaska Wildlife Troopers investigated a public report and confirmed at least 7 muskoxen (2 bulls and 5 cows) from the Unit 22D remainder hunt area were shot and left near Brevig Mission sometime during September 2012.

The harvest quota calculated for that portion of Unit 22D in the American and Agiapuk River drainages (listed as Unit 22D remainder in the 2012-2013 Alaska Hunting Regulations) was 7 bull muskox. Since at least 7 muskoxen have been harvested and the majority of them were cows, this take exceeds the 2012-2013 harvest quota for this Seward Peninsula hunt area and no further harvest is warranted at this time.

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3. Commissioner, Department of Fish and Game
4. Division of Wildlife Conservation

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Assistant Directors

Regional Supervisors

Regulation Coordination Team

Area Offices Statewide

Information Management Section, Anchorage, Douglas, Juneau

Public Communication/Information, Anchorage, Fairbanks

Federal Subsistence Liaison

5. Division of Boards

Boards Support Section, Executive Director

Field Offices: Dillingham, Kotzebue

Fish and Game Advisory Committees, Chair

Unit 22 AC, Northern Norton Sound

Unit 22 AC, Southern Norton Sound

6. Division of Subsistence

Assistant Director

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7. Public Communications Section, Juneau

8. Department of Public Safety, Alaska Wildlife Troopers

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Field Offices:

Unit 22: Nome

Unit 23: Kotzebue

9. U. S. Department of the Interior

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Unit 18/22 Anchorage, Mgr.

Unit 18/22 Anchorage, Subsistence

Unit 18/22 Anchorage, Wildlife

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Unit 22/23 Central Yukon, Wildlife

Fish and Wildlife Service

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FWS, Office of Federal Subsistence Management

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FWS RAC Unit 22, Seward Peninsula

FWS, Refuges

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10. Clerk of the Court or Magistrate

Unit 22: Nome

11. I.R.A./Traditional Village Councils/Regional Native Corporations

Unit 22

Bering Straits Native Corporation
Kawerak, Inc., Natural Resources Department
Kawerak, Inc., Reindeer Herders Association
Sitnasuak Native Corporation
Brevig Mission
Council
Elim
Golovin
Koyuk
Mary's Igloo
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Shaktoolik
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